

Compounds and Their Combinations for the Treatment of Influenza

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Technology description

Technical Summary

The glutathione and glutathione disulfide compositions used in this technology inhibit the production of infectious virus particles likely by interrupting the protease cleavage of viral hemagglutinin after the viral particles are released. By preventing extracellular activation of the virus, these compositions do not interfere with intracellular processes, allowing apoptosis of infected cells to proceed normally. Also, because the compositions work extracellularly, they can be delivered directly without the use of injections. Finally, this technology, by acting directly on the virus rather than conferring immunity to specific strains, may act to prevent and treat a broader range of strains than traditional immunization techniques.

In the U.S. alone, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized for flu-related complications, and about 36,000 people die from flu-related causes.

Application area

Because glutathione and glutathione disulfide compositions can be applied directly to the epithelia, this technology may prevent and treat influenza through a variety of inexpensive and practical delivery methods, such as lozenges, oral rinses, and nasal sprays. In addition, the compositions may be effective against multiple strains of the influenza virus due to its method of action.

Advantages

Can be delivered through inexpensive and practical delivery methods.

Acts without interfering with the body's natural elimination of infected cells.

May work on multiple influenza strains.

Institution

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